

## Community resources

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*courage is contagious*

## Viewing cable 03COLOMBO688, Tigers announce they are suspending peace talks; GSL, most observers see move as tactical

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

### Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cable's unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

### Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#03COLOMBO688**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
03COLOMBO688	2003-04-22 09:53	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy Colombo

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.aftenposten.no/spesial/wikileaksdokumenter/article3954292.ece>

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

"C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 08 COLOMBO 000688 SIPDIS DEPARTMENT FOR D, SA, SA/INS, SA/PD, S/CT NSC FOR E. MILLARD LONDON FOR POL/RIE  
DECL: 04-22-13  
TAGS: PGOV PTER KPAO EAID CE NO JA LTTE  
SUBJECT: Tigers announce they are suspending peace talks; GSL, most observers see move as tactical  
Refs: Colombo 685, and previous (Notal) (U) Classified by Ambassador E. Ashley Wills.  
Reasons: 1.5 (b, d).

1. (C) SUMMARY: In a press release dated April 21, the Tamil Tigers suspended their participation in the peace talks and said they will not at 10. END SUMMARY.

----- Tiger Statement -----

2. (U) In a long press release dated April 21, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) suspended its participation in peace talks with the 3. (U) The statement begins by tipping its hat to the peace process, noting that the prior rounds of talks and other interactions among the LT 4. (U) Briefly reciting these complaints, the statement wraps up by saying: "Under these circumstances, the LTTE leadership has decided to su

----- GSL Reaction -----

5. (C) The government has not yet issued an official public reaction to the LTTE statement. (Note: Late April 22, Prime Minister Wickremesingh 6. (C) In making the statement, Moragoda said the LTTE seemed to be using "shock therapy" because it felt a bit cornered, as many of the eas 7. (U) ((Note: Shortly after her return from an official visit to Bangladesh, President Kumaratunga issued a statement critical of the LTTE's ----- Other Reaction -----

8. (C) Most observers we have spoken to agree with Moragoda that the Tigers' statement was tactical in nature and not an indication that the c -----COMMENT -----

9. (C) While the Tigers are always hard to read, we tend to agree that that their statement seems basically tactical in nature and that they s END COMMENT.

----- Draft Press Statement -----

10. (C) Attached below is a draft press statement for Washington's immediate review. We would like Washington's clearance by April 23 morning 11. We do not find them convincing. A well-intentioned party that truly wants a peaceful, political settlement to Sri Lanka's conflict could c End text.

----- Text of LTTE Statement -----

11. (U) The following is the text of the LTTE statement made by LTTE spokesman Anton Balasingham and issued late April 21: Begin text. Dear Pr 12. (U) Minimize considered. WILLS